

Some Building in the West

1897-1952

Smith Brothers and Wilson

Pioneers in Western Construction



This book depicts the origin, growth,
and spread of the Company during
the past fifty-five years,
1897 to 1952.



Compiled and Presented by

Mrs. Alexander Smith and Mrs. Ralph S. Argue



IN preparing this story it had been my intention to put into a few pages some permanent record of the work of Smith Bros. and Wilson, but the abundance of material available soon made it clear that the book would have to be enlarged to its present size if any degree of coverage was to be given to fifty-five years of building activity.

The bulk of the photos and information concerning the early years was drawn from scrapbooks which I began to keep at Greenwood. At that time the purpose of these books was to keep my mother-in-law informed of the activities of my husband Alex and his two brothers. It could not then be foreseen that these clippings and photos were to make this present book possible.

Not by any means could sixty-eight pages contain a complete record, but it is hoped that the satisfaction I have had in its preparation will be reflected, in some measure, by the interest of those who read it.

I wish to record my gratitude to my daughter, Mrs. Ralph Argue, for her assistance in research and compilation. I am happy to make acknowledgements to the following for their interest and help in providing pictures and written material as well as in design and production: Mr. C. M. Campbell — Mining Engineer, The Fernie Free Press, Mr. Eric Knowles, Mr. Harold G. Long of the Lethbridge Herald, Mr. H. N. MacCorkindale, Mr. Alexander Smith Tinling, Mr. Ronald T. Jackson, Mr. Glen C. Hyatt, Members of the Board and Employees of the Company.

1703 Cedar Crescent,
Vancouver, B. C.
December 1st, 1952.

Mabel A. Smith.



Greenwood, B. C., in the Boundary Country, where the Company originated in Canada
and operated from 1897 to 1903.



The Early Years . . .

Duncan, Alexander, and Donald D. Smith were born near Owen Sound, Ontario, of Scottish parents who came by sailing ship from the Isle of Islay, Scotland. The family moved to Manitoulin Island in 1877. In 1881 Dunc and Alex, at the ages of twenty and sixteen went to Duluth, Minnesota, the rest of the family following in 1890. Dunc was foreman of a construction crew for the C.P.R. at Jackfish Bay on Lake Superior in 1882, Alex working under him. Upon completion of that contract, Dunc went west into Washington Territory (now the State of Washington), later settling in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he was Mayor for several years. There he owned and operated a sash and door factory. Alex worked at various lumber camps near Duluth.

In time Alex and a brother-in-law bought timber rights, and built and operated their own lumber camps on the shores of Lake Superior, both in Minnesota and Wisconsin. D. D. also worked in the camps. When the weather was unsuitable for logging, he and Alex built houses, a school, and other buildings in Duluth. They continued in the logging business until the spring of 1897, when D. D. joined Duncan in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. A few months later the sash and door factory burned. They then began taking contracts for buildings in Spokane Falls (now Spokane, Washington), under the name of Smith Brothers.

Late in the fall of 1897, D. D. went to a new mining camp in B. C. (later called Greenwood), the last eighty miles by stage. The ore was of a very high grade, and prospects seemed excellent, so he sent for Dunc, who also had to come the last eighty miles by stage, the Kettle Valley Railroad not being completed until late in 1899. A new company was formed in that year—Smith Bros. & Travis. The town grew rapidly, and they built churches, business blocks, and many houses. In July Alex also came out from Duluth by the same route. A short time later Mr. Travis resigned, and the company again became Smith Brothers. The "Glory Hole" (copper), at Phoenix was operating at that time, and they constructed many houses, business blocks, and



DUNCAN SMITH



ALEXANDER SMITH



DONALD D. SMITH

mine buildings in the thriving community, operating at first from Greenwood. In 1901 D. D. opened a branch in Phoenix.

In the same year Alex moved to Grand Forks, B.C., where the brothers had received a contract from the Granby Company for one of the first copper smelters

to be built in Canada, on the north fork of the Kettle River. This was their first really large contract and this site soon became a hive of activity. After several months the first molten copper was poured, the glow at night being visible a mile or more from the plant.



THEIR FIRST REALLY LARGE CONTRACT



The Granby Smelter, Grand Forks, B. C. — (1901 - 1902).

The Granby Smelter reached the position of being the largest non-ferrous smelter in the British Empire and the second, or third, largest in the world. It was one of the first to introduce mechanical charging. Twenty million tons of metalliferous rock passed through the smelter. Heaps of slag a mile long are monuments to that period of mining activity, and are a striking feature of the landscape today.



Homes of D. D., Alexander, and Duncan Smith, Grand Forks, built in 1902.

About a year later Dunc and D.D. came and the three brothers built homes side by side at the foot of Observation Mountain. After completing the smelter they built a school, business blocks, many houses and in 1902, a school at Revelstoke.



School at Revelstoke, B.C.—(1902).



Tipple and mine buildings at Coleman, Alberta, built in 1903-5 for the International Coal and Coke Company. This was the first sod turned on the new townsite.

INTO THE CROW'S NEST PASS

In 1904 D.D. moved to Fernie, B. C., where they had contracts for the Trites-Woods Company. Later that year, Dunc and Alex moved to Coleman, Alberta, having been awarded contracts there by the International Coal and Coke Company for the manager's home and mine buildings. Later they secured contracts for an hotel, a school, churches, houses and other buildings. For a few months, until the hotel was completed, they had no shelter but a shack which also served as an office where they drew plans and made out specifications for many of the buildings in

Coleman, Blairmore and Frank. A little later they built their own sash and door and finishing plant. They bought a small store and on that site built the main general store of the village, The Coleman Mercantile Company, a manager being in charge. The Smith Bros. office and living quarters for the two families were above. Jack Wilson became a partner and the firm henceforth has been known as Smith Bros. and Wilson.

At this time they got many contracts in Frank, six miles distant, a large portion of the old town having been destroyed by

the great slide in 1903. In the early summer of 1905 terrific forest fires raged throughout the Crow's Nest Pass. All able bodied men were ordered out to fight the blaze. The wind turned, blowing firebrands and sparks on the frame buildings in the main business section of Coleman in almost the narrowest section of the Pass. With all the men away at the main fire, the sash and door plant burned to the ground. A phone call brought Dunc and Alex up from Frank in a hurry and that very evening, before the ashes were cold, rebuilding began.

In the fall of 1905 they secured the contract for the first large zinc smelter to be built in Canada, at Frank, Alberta, where Alex and his family moved. Earl

Grey, then Governor-General, took part in the opening ceremonies. This was built for French interests who also owned the zinc mines nearby and needed the smelter near the coal mines of Turtle Mountain. This building, though primarily of brick construction, contained more than 450,000 board feet of lumber in the roof and ore bins.

In spite of geologists' warnings that another slide might occur at any time, the building of the smelter and the rebuilding of Frank went on. Frequently masses of rock would crash down the bare face of Turtle Mountain less than a mile away. In later years the mines failed to produce sufficient ore and the smelter is now only ruins.



Zinc Smelter, Frank, Alberta, under construction — (1905).

EASTWARD TO THE PRAIRIES - - - 1905



In 1905 Duncan moved to Lethbridge, where the Company had obtained contracts for the Bentley Block, Hudson's Bay store (above) and the Nurses' Home for Galt Hospital. Other contracts followed rapidly in the thriving prairie town.



Central School

(1908)



Y. M. C. A.
(1909).





Lethbridge Brewery—Original contract in 1907, and an addition built in 1914.



Manual Training School, Lethbridge — 1912, formally opened by the Duke of Connaught, Governor-General at that time.



Lethbridge Court House, 1909, built of stone and brick, the interior finished in exceptionally fine panelling.

AT LETHBRIDGE



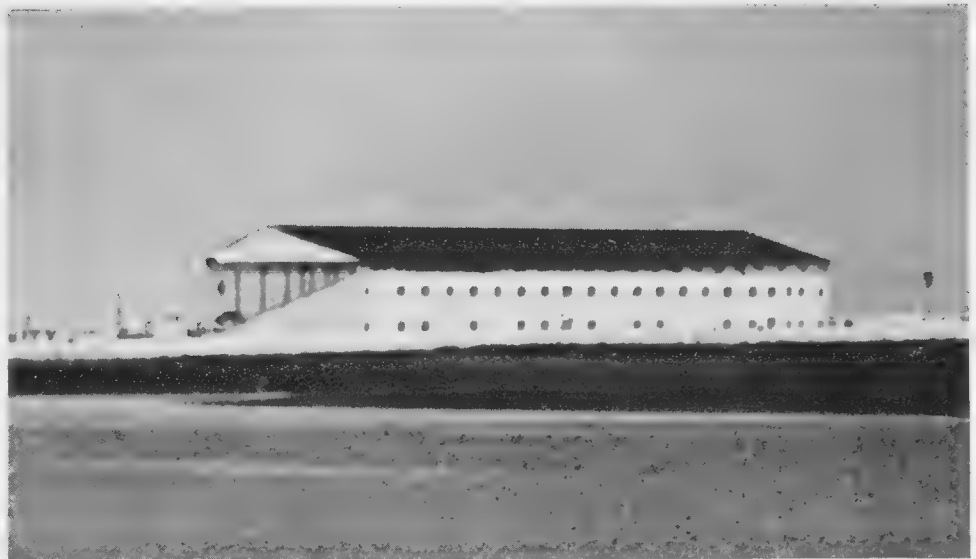
Sherlock Building, the first three storeys built in 1909, two more added later. It was the first fireproof, steel reinforced concrete building in Lethbridge.

Among other contracts in those busy years were the new Power Plant and the Filtration Plant on the flats of the Old Man River, in the coulee below the city. The Filtration Plant was one of the most modern in operation on the continent at that time, 1917-1918. At about the same time they constructed the head gates on the Saint Mary's River for the Alberta Railroad and Irrigation System, later taken over by the C.P.R. In the early 1920's the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation System, made possible by damming the Old Man River in the foothills, was organized. Smith Bros. & Wilson obtained the contract for many of the bridges and gates on the "big ditch".

No. 6 shaft of the Galt Coal Mine built in 1908-09 at Hardyville, six miles from Lethbridge. Similar buildings were constructed across the Old Man River at Coalhurst.



Grandstand seating 5,000 at Henderson Lake Park. It was built in 26 days for the first flying exhibition in Southern Alberta, by Eugene Ely on Friday, June 14th, 1911.



The School of Agriculture at Youngstown, Alberta. At the same time, the Company also built identical Agricultural Colleges at Raymond and Gleichen. These were the first Schools of Agriculture in Alberta. — (1919).





City Hall, Regina — (1905). The opening ceremonies were remarkable, with civic functions lasting a full week.

ON TO REGINA

In the spring of 1905 Duncan went to Regina to open an office, the Company having obtained the contract for the City Hall.

Shortly after, D.D. also went to Regina, where he remained as manager until his death in 1945. This year, 1952, completes 47 years of continuous operation of that branch.

Alex, in the summer of 1906, moved

from Frank to take charge of the Lethbridge branch where he remained for eighteen years.

Late in 1908 the building boom in Regina declined and Dunc came back to Lethbridge for two years, where business was lively. They built many residences, the power plant, the filtration plant on the Old Man River, several schools, business blocks, and a library in Galt Gardens.



Sir Wilfrid Laurier delivering the oration at the laying of the cornerstone for the first building of the University of Saskatchewan, July, 1910.

EDUCATIONAL CORNERSTONES

In 1910 the Company obtained the contract for the first five buildings of the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon. Dunc moved there to open a branch office.

After Saskatoon was chosen as the location a controversy arose as to the best site. The 1176 acres selected on the Nutana bank of the Saskatchewan River are near a large deposit of glacial limestone boulders carried there during the Ice Age. The removal of these giant rocks was carried out before the days of mammoth power shovels. Consequently, all the stone had to be removed from the earth with pick, shovel and dynamite.

Since that time the Company has built most of the buildings on the campus. The digging and cutting of this stone is handled entirely by Smith Bros. and Wilson. In recent years, owing to the dwindling number of stone masons in this country, craftsmen have been flown out from Scotland to do this intricate work.

Landscaping has gone on during the years and the campus is now one of the most beautiful and impressive in Canada.

With the large buildings under construction at present, an advertisement for stone-cutters still appears in the *People's Journal*, Aberdeen, Scotland.

THE FIVE ORIGINAL BUILDINGS - - - 1910



Stock Pavilion.



Power House.



Engineering Building.



Agricultural Hall.



Saskatchewan Hall (Students' Residence).

In 1912 the Company became Smith Bros. and Wilson, Limited, with the head office in Regina. The names of those who signed the original articles of association are as follows: Duncan Smith, Alexander Smith, D. D. Smith, John Wilson, V. G. Young-husband, and Charles Keating. Shortly afterwards Mr. Wilson withdrew as an active member of the firm.

By this time, with three branches, the Company had set the pattern for widespread operations carried on until the present day.

BACK TO BRITISH COLUMBIA

In 1921 Duncan moved to Vancouver to open a branch, Sam Wright being left in charge at Saskatoon. In 1924 the Lethbridge branch was closed and Alex joined Dunc at the coast, D.D. remaining in Regina. Since then the Company has continued to grow, constructing many important buildings in the three Western Provinces. Harold H. Johnson became manager in Vancouver in 1937,



Devonshire Apartment Hotel — under construction.



The Bessborough Armoury was opened in March, 1934, by the Earl of Bessborough, Governor-General.



The Seaforth Armoury was opened in 1936 by Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General

succeeding Alex Smith, and in 1945, after the death of D.D., Ernest E. Lord took over the management in Regina.

The company also constructed the only two armouries built in Vancouver between the two wars. At the request of the regiment the Seaforth Armoury followed the Scottish Baronial style, a feature duplicated in only one other building of this kind in Canada.



Devonshire Hotel, Vancouver, B. C. — (1924).



NORTH

School at The Pas,
Manitoba —
(1916).

COMPASS POINTS

In fifty-five years of continuous operation the Company has attained a geographical spread unusual for a Western concern, which has enabled it to play an important part in the continued development of British Columbia and the Prairies.

Operations have extended as far North as The Pas, Manitoba, where they built a school as early as 1916.

The most easterly contract was for a branch of the Bank of Montreal at Fort William, Ontario.

SOUTH

Ogden Point Elevator at Victoria, B. C. — (1928).





EAST

Bank of Montreal,
Fort William,
Ont. — (1937).



In the west, Prince Rupert marks the farthest extent of the Company's work.

A school and several hundred wartime houses were built to accommodate the increased population during World War II. To provide essential services the Company also constructed an administration building, commissary, bunk houses, fire hall and post office.

In the South the Company has erected buildings at various points near the United States border in Alberta and Saskatche-

wan. In British Columbia the Company reached as far South as Victoria to erect the Ogden Point grain elevator which is a prominent landmark at the harbour entrance.

Within these geographical bounds literally thousands of buildings, small and large, have been built. They range through every type from tiny bungalows to huge hotels and from the humble railroad station dotting the prairie to sprawling hospitals. The following pages present a portfolio of this extensive work.

WEST

School at Prince Rupert, B. C. — (1943).





Hotel Saskatchewan, Regina.

BUILDING FOR THE RAILWAYS

Something of a record was established in the building of the Hotel Saskatchewan. First sod was turned June 23rd, 1926, work continued through the extreme cold of winter, and the building was opened May 23rd, 1927, eleven months to the day.

For the C.P.R., in addition to the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina, the Company built the underpass and station in Leth-

bridge and the reinforcing of the banks of the Old Man River beneath the high level bridge.

Work done for the C.N.R. includes a series of forty stations on the old Grand Trunk line from Winnipeg to Saskatoon, the fine station in Saskatoon, and the Bessborough in Saskatoon, one of Canada's most distinctive hotels.



The Bessborough Hotel — under construction.



The Bessborough — completed 1932.



Calgary Post Office — started in January, 1930, regardless of prairie winter weather, and completed in the summer of 1931.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Exterior of the Calgary post office is constructed of Tyndal stone quarried in Manitoba, and the handsome interior of the main floor finished in grey marble.

This building was formally opened by the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, one of Calgary's most outstanding public figures, who was Prime Minister of Canada at that time.

Right — Calgary Post Office after completion.

Below — Interior of Calgary Post Office showing the main lobby.



GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS



Courthouse, Prince Albert,
Saskatchewan —
(1927).

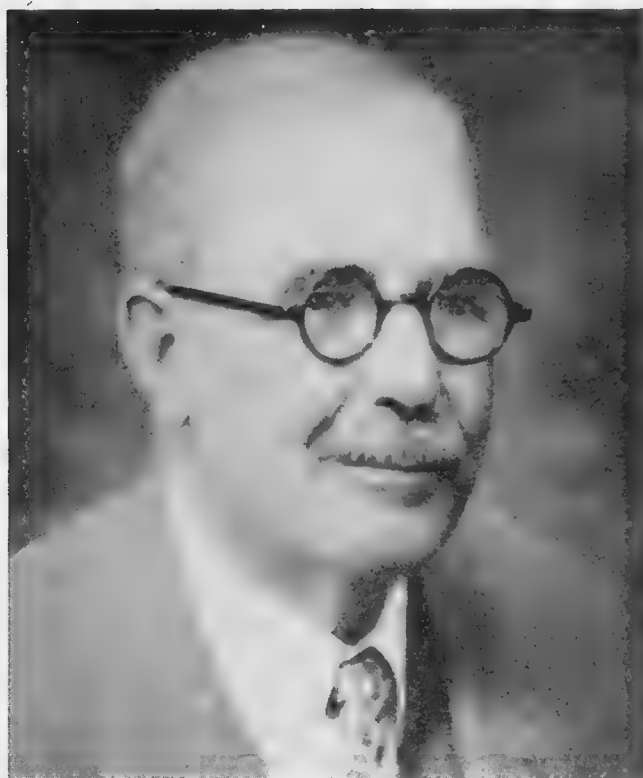
Federal Building, Saskatoon, housing
the Post Office, Customs and other
Government offices. (1930).



Land Titles Office at Moose Jaw, built
at the height of the land boom when
men slept in line-ups to be first in the
morning to file on homesteads on the
prairie. (1908).



THE FOUNDERS



DUNCAN SMITH
(1861 - 1942).



ALEXANDER SMITH
(1865 - 1943)



DONALD D. SMITH
(1872 - 1945)



JOHN WILSON
(1867 - 1943)

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



HAROLD H. JOHNSON joined the company in March, 1907, at Regina, as general utility man and estimator in the office. He transferred to Lethbridge in 1908 and to Vancouver in 1924, becoming manager of that branch in 1937. He is the oldest employee in point of service in the whole organization.



SAMUEL WRIGHT started with the firm as a carpenter in 1910. He later became superintendent and in 1921, when Duncan moved to the Coast, he became manager of the Saskatoon branch. One son, George Wright, has been with the company since 1937, and another son, Clifford Wright, since 1947.



ERNEST E. LORD, upon his return from several years in the Orient, joined the company at Regina in 1928, as Engineer. After D. D. Smith's death in 1945, he became manager of that branch. His son, John Lord, has been with the firm since 1945, and is now an Estimator in the Regina office.



GEORGE JOHNS started as a carpenter with the company in 1907, and later was superintendent in Regina for many years. He retired from active service in 1939, but remained in an advisory capacity. His two sons, G. W. C. Johns and J. A. Johns have been with the firm since 1925 and 1931, respectively.



WALTER DOUGLAS, M.B.E., has been with the company since 1921, starting as a carpenter, first in Regina, then in various places in Saskatchewan and Alberta, as Superintendent. In 1932 he was transferred to Vancouver, and in 1937 became General Superintendent of the Vancouver branch.



G. W. C. JOHNS started with the firm as an apprentice carpenter in Regina in 1925. Later he became a Superintendent on large projects in Saskatchewan and Alberta, and has been General Superintendent of the Regina branch since 1947.



VERNON DUNNETT — After employment with the Company's auditors, Vernon Dunnett went into the head office in 1928 as accountant under the late George Barre. In 1941 he rejoined the firm in Vancouver as secretary-treasurer of that branch.



J. A. JOHNS joined the Company at Regina in 1931 as an apprentice carpenter. In 1939 he left the field to learn estimating in the Regina office. Since 1950 he has been assistant to Samuel Wright and Estimator at the Saskatoon branch.

Mrs. Duncan Smith and Mrs. Campbell Kelleher, daughter of Alexander Smith, are also members of the board.



V. G. YOUNGHUSBAND joined the firm in 1899 as a carpenter at Greenwood, later becoming superintendent, moving on to Coleman, Lethbridge, Alberta, and then to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Of those who signed the original articles of association, when they became a limited company, he is the only one surviving. After severing connections with Smith Bros. & Wilson, he became later a Vice-President of the Foundation Company of Canada at Montreal.



PERSONNEL

FORTY YEARS AND OVER

Harry English

THIRTY YEARS AND OVER

William White

TWENTY YEARS AND OVER

E. A. Bennett
William Durfey
D. Gordon Fraser

H. Frayling
F. J. Hanson
J. P. Moore

Michael Sandalack
William Sandalack
Harry Sneve

TEN YEARS AND OVER

O. Bevilacqua
Martin U. Douglass
Lewis Franta
Thomas Irvine
Anthony Kesthelyi
William E. Lindsay
Anthony Mantesso
William Margach
L. A. McDougal
Alfred Messner
William Mitchell

Harry Mudry
Robert L. Perdue
William Pitt
William Puhach
A. Sambrook
Eric Sixstone
Marcus W. Smith
Norman W. Staveley
Alexander Stellick
D. Stevenson

Robert Stewart
Lloyd S. Taylor
George Trifunov
Irene Turner
Donald Waters
George Waters
William White, Jr.
Bruce Wiebe
Clifford E. Wright
George V. Wright

FIVE YEARS AND OVER

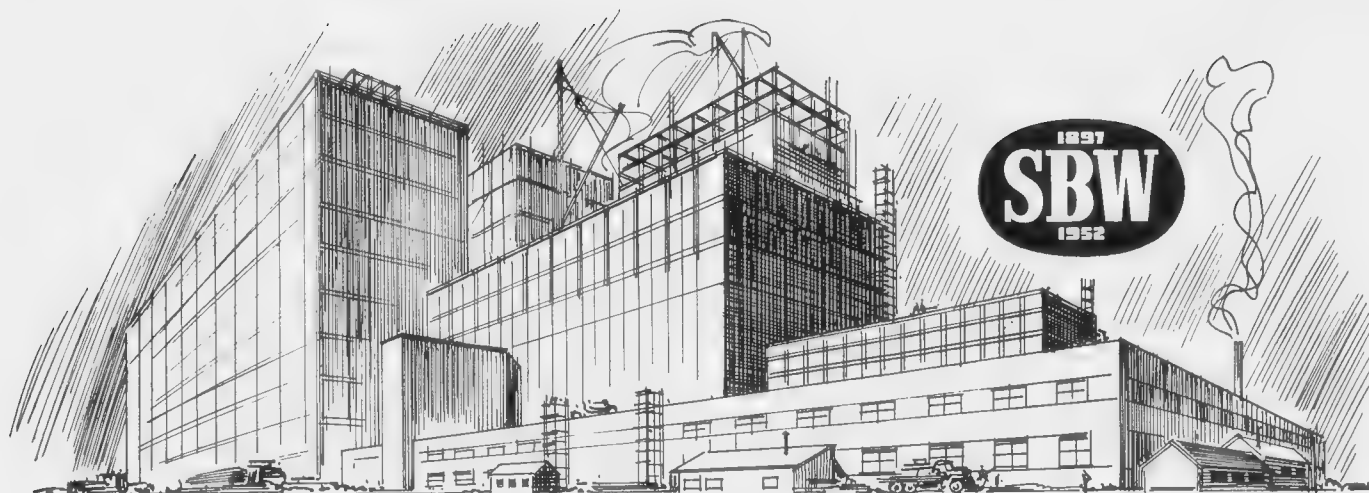
Gabriel Adam
William Alderton
John Aschenbrener
E. A. Blair
Frederick Bugg
John E. Callander
Arvid Christenson
Frank Cicansky
John Cripps
C. W. Darlow
Gordon Dickey
Brian Dobson
James Doyle
Stanley Drummond
David Fairbairn
Ralph Gausdal
Joseph W. Gerrish

Joseph Grossi
Edward Hanson
Marvin Hanson
Berne Hicke
Paul Hlady
Jacob Hoffart
Carl Jakobs
Stanley G. Johns
Louis Kissinger
Joseph Kleisinger
Clifford Lloyd
John P. Lord
Michael McCall
J. C. McCleery
James Maitland
B. W. Mastel

Raymond Messner
Samuel Niebergall
Samuel Perry
Michael Popil
Richard Prested
B. E. Ralph
A. W. Reid
Philip Reslein
E. Sandstrom
R. G. Saunders
A. B. Shindler
R. N. Sinclair
Michael M. Stankov
W. D. Vandervoort
Samuel Walker
J. W. Waters

Formerly with the Firm

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| GEORGE BARRE | (deceased) joined the firm at Regina in 1920, and was Secretary-Treasurer, and a director of the Company at the time of his death in May of 1951. |
| CHARLES KEATING | (deceased) started with the Company in Regina in 1905, and was Secretary-Treasurer when the firm became Smith Bros. & Wilson, Limited, in 1912. |
| EDWARD LONG | (deceased) first worked for the firm at Saskatoon in 1913, moving to Regina in 1921. He was Secretary-Treasurer until his death in 1928. |
| RAY TAYLOR | (deceased) joined the Company in 1941, and was Superintendent at Powell River and various other places in B.C. until his death at Kelowna in 1950. |
| ADAM TURTON | (deceased) joined the firm in 1913 in Regina, and was a Superintendent for many years before retiring in 1947. |



Fifty-five years in the construction business have led Smith Bros. and Wilson into many and varied types of construction. Through the years the Company has restricted its efforts almost exclusively to buildings of one sort or another, an astonishing variety of structures has resulted. No complete list can be given, but the projects shown on these pages are the first of their type, either in Canada or in the Company's area of operations.



THE FIRST ZINC SMELTER IN CANADA—

In 1905 a new industry was begun in Canada with the building of the Zinc Smelter at Frank, Alberta. When completed in 1906 it was the largest on the North American continent.

THE KITSILANO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL—

On September 6th, 1927, the first two Junior High Schools in Canada were opened, the Kitsilano in Vancouver pictured at the right being built by the company. An addition was built in 1928.



THE DRIVE-IN BANK OF MONTREAL—

The first drive-in bank in Canada, a branch of the Bank of Montreal, was opened in Vancouver in 1950. The use of huge glass panes and the trim of Haddington stone and polished black granite make it a strikingly modern structure. A unique and amusing feature is perambulator parking space in one corner of the building.



The first public Kindergarten in Alberta, at Lethbridge, in 1907.



The first Consolidated District School in Alberta, at Warner, in 1914.



The first Lignite and Briquette Plant in Saskatchewan, at Bienfait, in 1921.



The first Motor Assembly Plant in Saskatchewan, for General Motors, in Regina, 1928.



PRISONER OF WAR CAMPS—

The first Prisoner of War Camps in Alberta, for the Second World War, at Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, were built in 1942, and were the largest in Canada, each accommodating ten thousand. Prisoners from the Lethbridge Jail and Indians from the nearby Reservation, who pitched their teepees near the site, were employed to speed completion. Four million board feet of lumber were used in the construction of the sixty-six buildings inside each camp and the twenty-two watch towers.



PEARSON TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL—

The unusual plan of this hospital, six wings of only one storey each, with view wards level with lawns, and gardens, makes possible a new approach in the treatment of tuberculosis. These wings are connected with the two-storey administration and clinical building. From this building radiate four more wings, containing the Chapel, auditorium, library and central kitchen.

Part of the early construction at Tranquille, B. C. was done by the company in 1921 and 1922.



Burkeville, Sea Island, B. C., built during the war largely for the men employed at the nearby Boeing plant.

WARTIME HOUSING PROJECTS

In recent years, two interesting contracts have been transforming a farm on Sea Island, B. C., which had been cultivated for sixty-five years, into a complete modern village, with roads, sewers, water supply, and drainage, to serve war-workers at the Boeing Aircraft Plant. This project was used as a pattern for wartime housing throughout Canada. The other complete village was carved out of virgin forest on Vancouver's North Shore, to

accommodate war-workers in the shipyards. The number of wartime houses built by the Company for the Federal Government throughout the West was in excess of three thousand.

Since 1939 participation in defence work has been on a large scale in B. C., Alberta, and Saskatchewan, and is still continuing, comprising buildings of various kinds, which of course cannot be pictured here.



Two views of the housing project, Kimberley, B. C. — (1947).



A housing project on Vancouver Island (1952), now nearly complete at the time of publication.



Westview School in North Vancouver (1944), built at the same time as the second group of wartime houses.

HOSPITALS



Regina General Hospital — (1949). This hospital was built in five separate contracts.



Grey Nuns' Hospital Regina — (1950), begun in 1926 and built in ten separate contracts.



The Centre Wing, latest addition to St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver — (1950).



Grace Hospital, Vancouver. The original structure was built in 1927 and the addition in 1946.



The Chest Unit, Shaughnessy Military Hospital, Vancouver — (1945-46).



Addition to the Crippled Children's Hospital,
Vancouver — (1946).



Academy of Medicine, Vancouver — (1950).



Burnaby General Hospital, Vancouver,
near completion in 1952,



Architect's drawing of the new wing of St. Vincent's
Hospital, Vancouver — (1952).



PROVINCIAL SANITARIUMS

Pearson Tuberculosis Hospital, Vancouver — (1952).
Inset — Detail of one wing of this modern, one-storey structure.



Provincial Tuberculosis Sanitarium, Saskatoon — (1925).

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Rutland High School,
Rutland, B. C. —
(1950).



Kelowna High School,
Kelowna, B. C. —
(1948).



John Oliver High School,
Vancouver — (1951).





Gladstone School, Vancouver — (1945-50). This school covers more than three acres of floor space.



Lord Byng High School, Vancouver — (1950 - 51).



Kitsilano Junior High School, Vancouver — (1927).



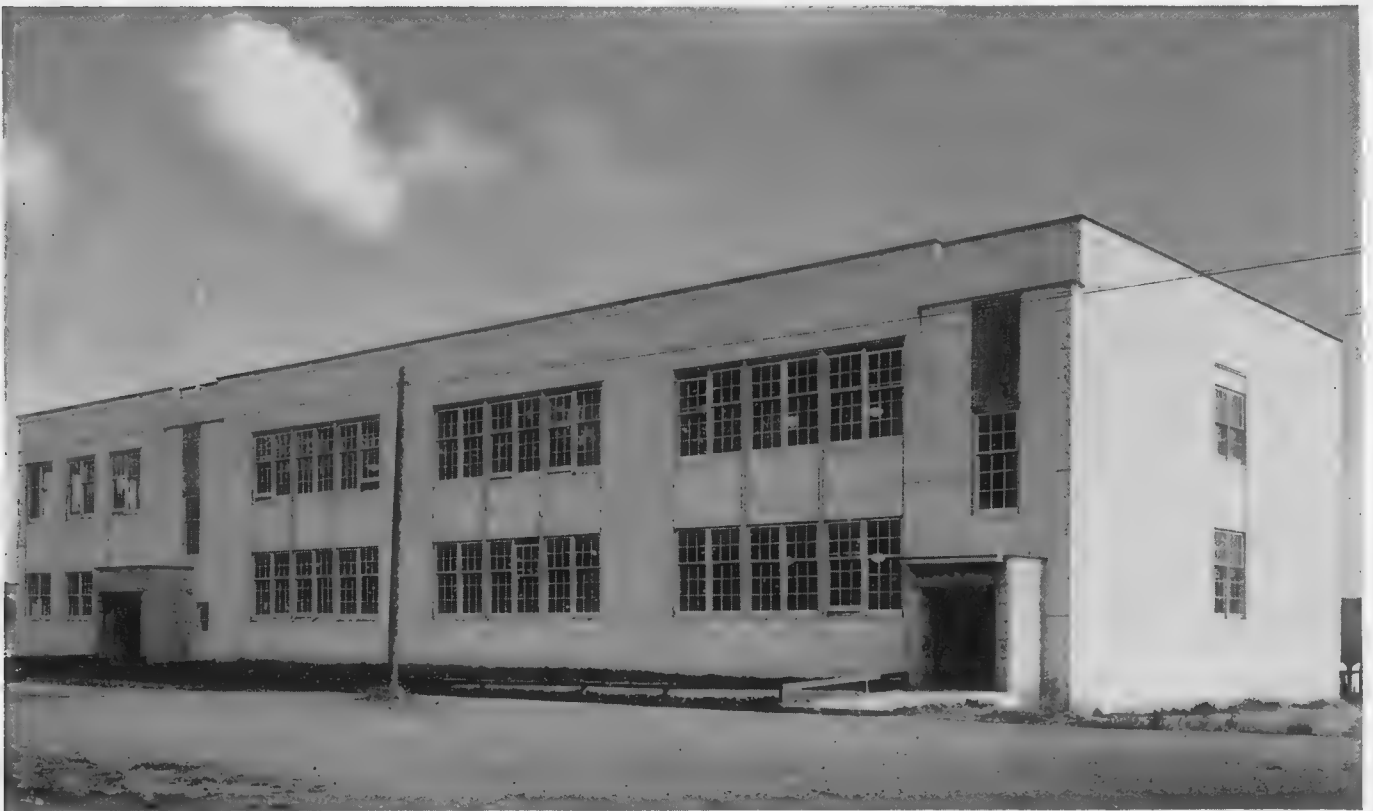
Indian School, Lebret, Saskatchewan — (1935), one of several Indian Schools built by the Company.



Interior of the Gymnasium, Luther College, Regina — (1949). This is one of several buildings at the College built by SBW.



School Administration Building, Vancouver — (1950).



Junior-Senior High School, Prince George, B. C. — (1944).

THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY



The old entrance to the Vancouver Art Gallery — (1931).

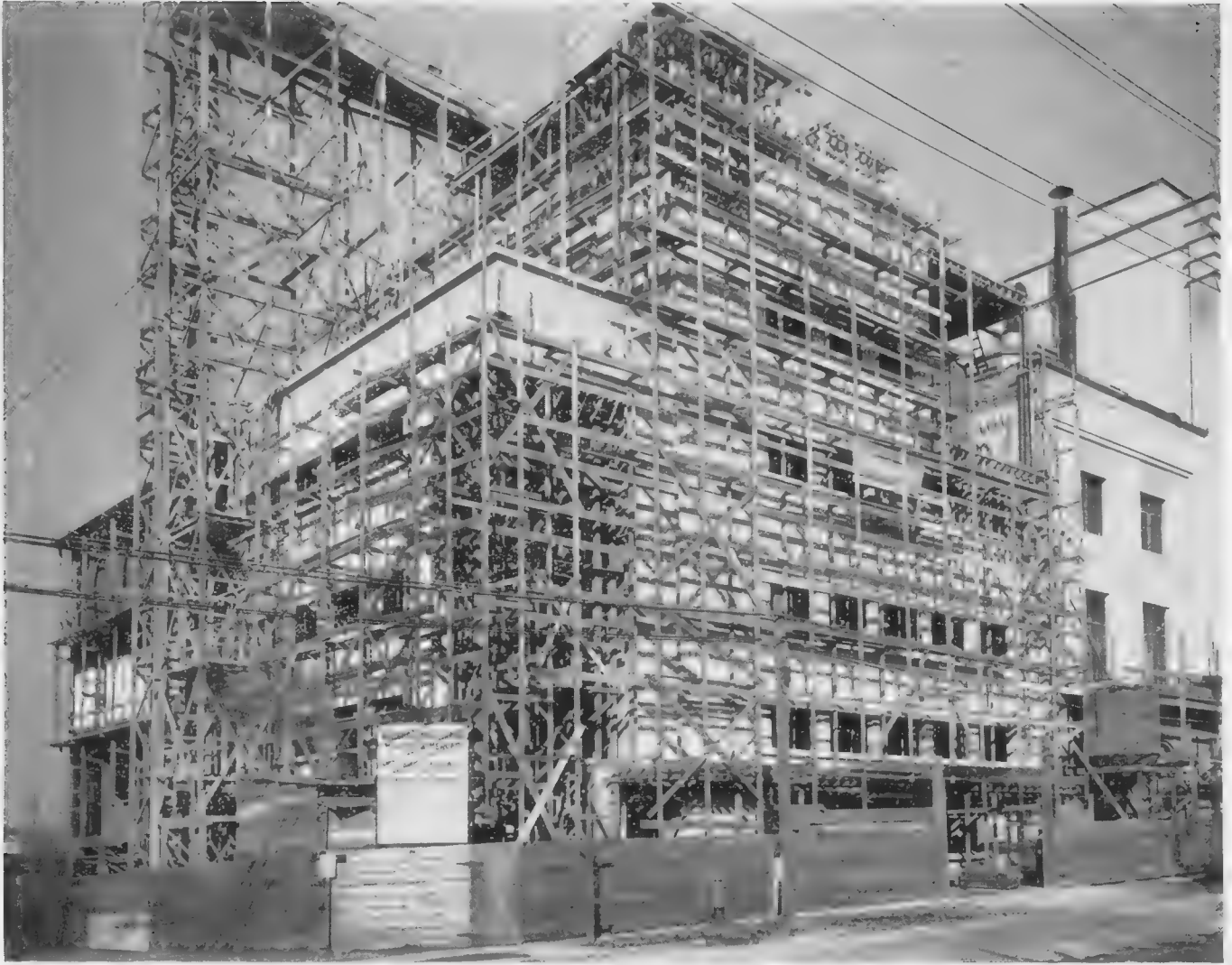


An interior view of the Vancouver Art Gallery after reconstruction — (1951).



The enlarged and modernized Vancouver Art Gallery — (1951).

INDUSTRIAL



The Vancouver Brewery under construction — (1948).



Aerial view of the Vancouver Brewery, started in 1946 and completed in 1952.



Capilano Brewery at Vancouver under construction, showing the Seaforth Armoury in the foreground. The first Capilano Brewery on Powell Street was rebuilt by the Company in 1931.



General Motors Assembly Plant at Regina — (1928-29). This Plant covers more than 13 acres.



Ford Assembly Plant under construction in Vancouver — (1937-38).



A side view of the completed Ford Assembly Plant.

**Firestone Tire Warehouse at
Regina — (1950).**



**General Electric warehouse,
offices, and distribution centre,
Vancouver — (1949).**

**Liquid Carbonic Plant,
Vancouver — (1951).**





Grandstand at Regina Fairgrounds — (1928).



City Hall at Weyburn, Sask. — (1914).



Grant Hall Community Hotel at Moose Jaw, Sask., under construction in 1926.

CHURCHES



Third Avenue United Church at Saskatoon — (1911-12).

Among churches in Canada this building is outstanding from a point of view of architecture and construction and is frequently inspected by visiting architects.



Holy Rosary Cathedral at Regina — (1913).



Baptist Church at Regina — (1911).



Wesley United Church at Lethbridge — (1913).



Interior of Henderson United Church, Burnaby, B. C. — (1949).



Chown Memorial Church, Vancouver — (1937).



Synagogue at Regina — (1949). This structure is built of native Saskatchewan cream brick.



Balfour Apartments under construction at Regina — (1929-30).

During the construction of this entirely fire-proof building, the concrete frame was completed at the rate of one floor per week. It was started in the spring of 1929 and completed and the first suites occupied in January of 1930.

The Balfour was one of the first truly modern apartments to be built in western Canada, with self-service elevators, a

cafeteria, and maid service.

In addition to "A" Block, pictured to the right, built for the Royal North West Mounted Police in 1912, in Regina, they have built "B" Block, the R.C.M.P. Officers' Mess, the Crime Detection Laboratories, Central Steam Heat System, Housing Units and work has just begun on a large Riding School at the Regina Barracks.



Balfour Apartments completed in 1930.



"A" Block, R.C.M.P. Headquarters in Regina — (1912 - 13).



"Drive-in" Bank of Montreal at Vancouver — (1950).



Interior view of the "drive-in" Bank.



Bank of Montreal, Regina — (1952). Several smaller branches have been built by the Company.



Bank of Montreal at Calgary, begun in 1930 and completed in 1932.



Penticton Telephone Building — (1951).



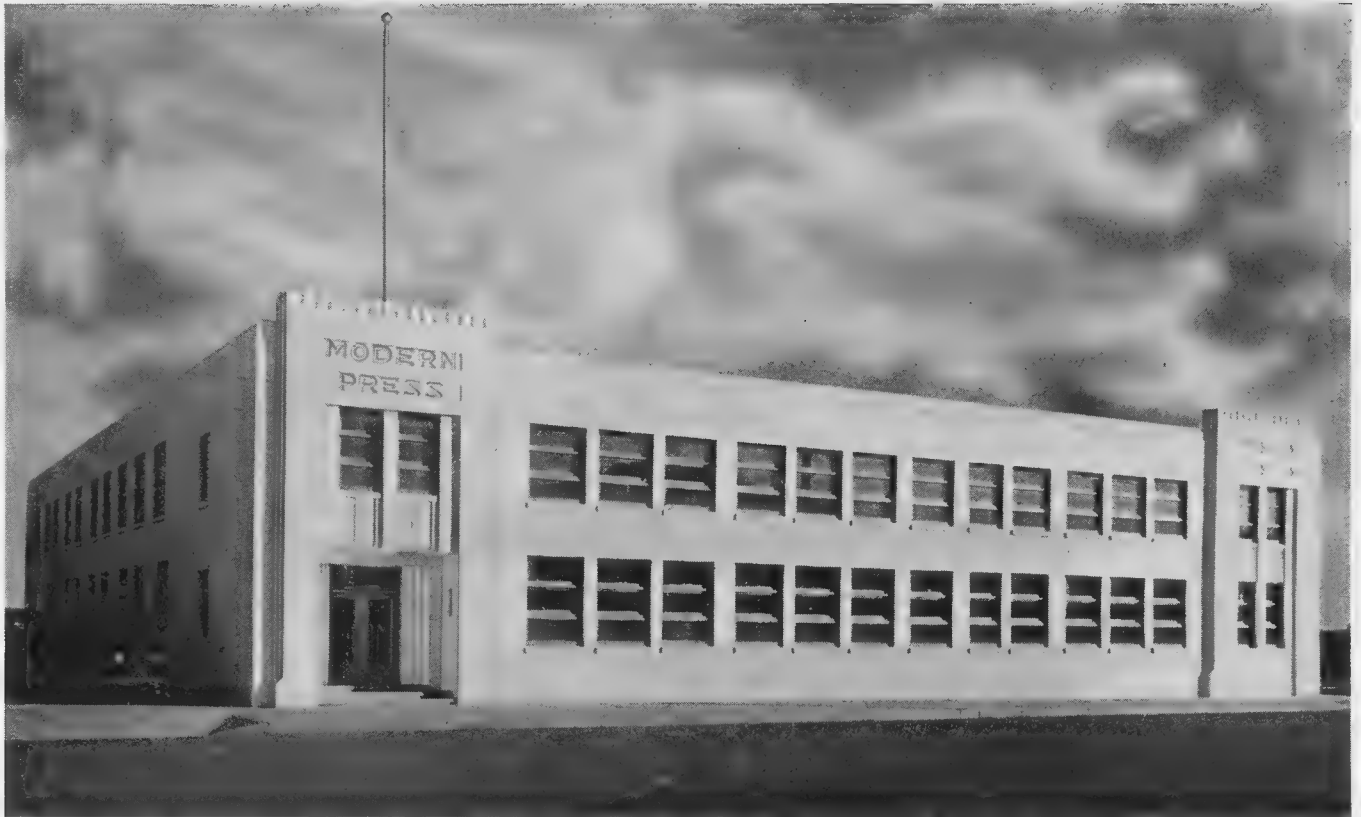
Kelowna Telephone Building — (1950).

The Company shared in the development and population growth of the Okanagan Valley during the recent post-war years as it built the auditoriums at Rutland and Kelowna as well as elementary schools in these centres.



Interior of the Kelowna Memorial Arena — (1948)

In 1945 a central field office was opened at Kelowna and work in the Okanagan managed from that centre: large high schools at Rutland and Kelowna, a theatre and the Kelowna Memorial Arena shown above. Telephone Exchanges were built at Summerland, Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton, 1948 to 1951. This office was opened in 1945 to direct the construction of a housing project and remained in operation intermittently for six years,



Modern Press Building at Saskatoon, where the weekly farm newspaper, "The Western Producer", makes its home.
Built in 1947.



The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Development. A major contract in 1947-48 was the huge Wheat Pool flour mill, elevator, and vegetable oil plant at Saskatoon, shown above,



Interior of Eaton's warehouse at Regina— (1922 - 23). This was built especially for heavy farm machinery.



Eaton's at Saskatoon, under construction in 1928. It was built of reinforced concrete and Tyndal Stone.



Canadian National Station, Saskatoon — (1938-39). The station opens onto a fine view of the Bessborough Hotel.





Kresge Building at Victoria — (1930).



William Dick Building, Vancouver — (1926).



"Mc & Mc's" at New Westminster — (1938-39).

Additions to various warehouses in Vancouver were also built by the Company for Mc & Mc.



Kitsilano War Memorial, Vancouver — (1950-51).



Mayfair and Beta apartments at Regina — (1929).

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



Residence of the President — (1912).



Physics Building — (1919-20).



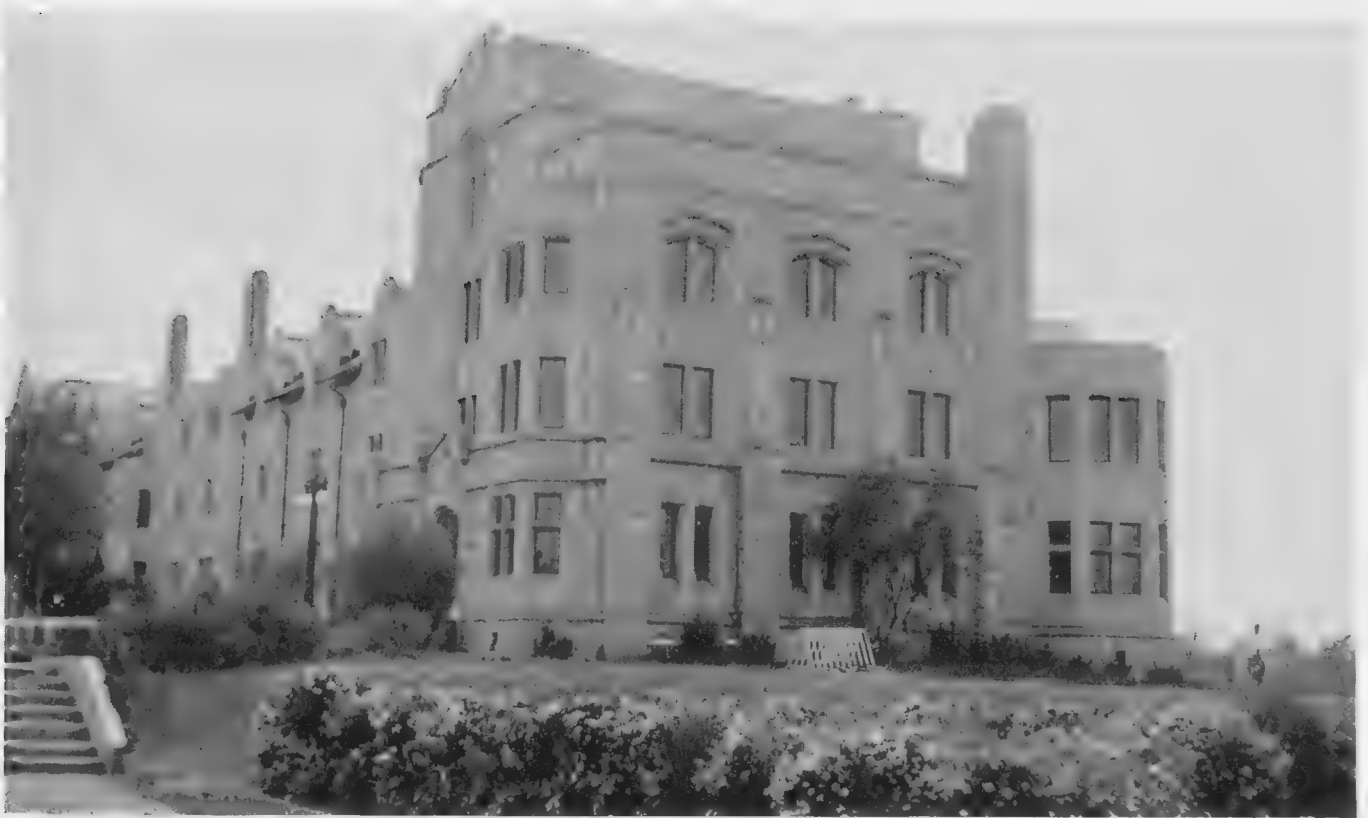
Medical College — (1945-49).



St. Andrew's College — (1921-22).



Emmanuel College — (1912)



Qu'Appelle Hall, Student's Residence — (1912).



Architect's drawing of the new hospital at the University of Saskatchewan. Began in 1949, with one wing already in use, this building is still under construction.



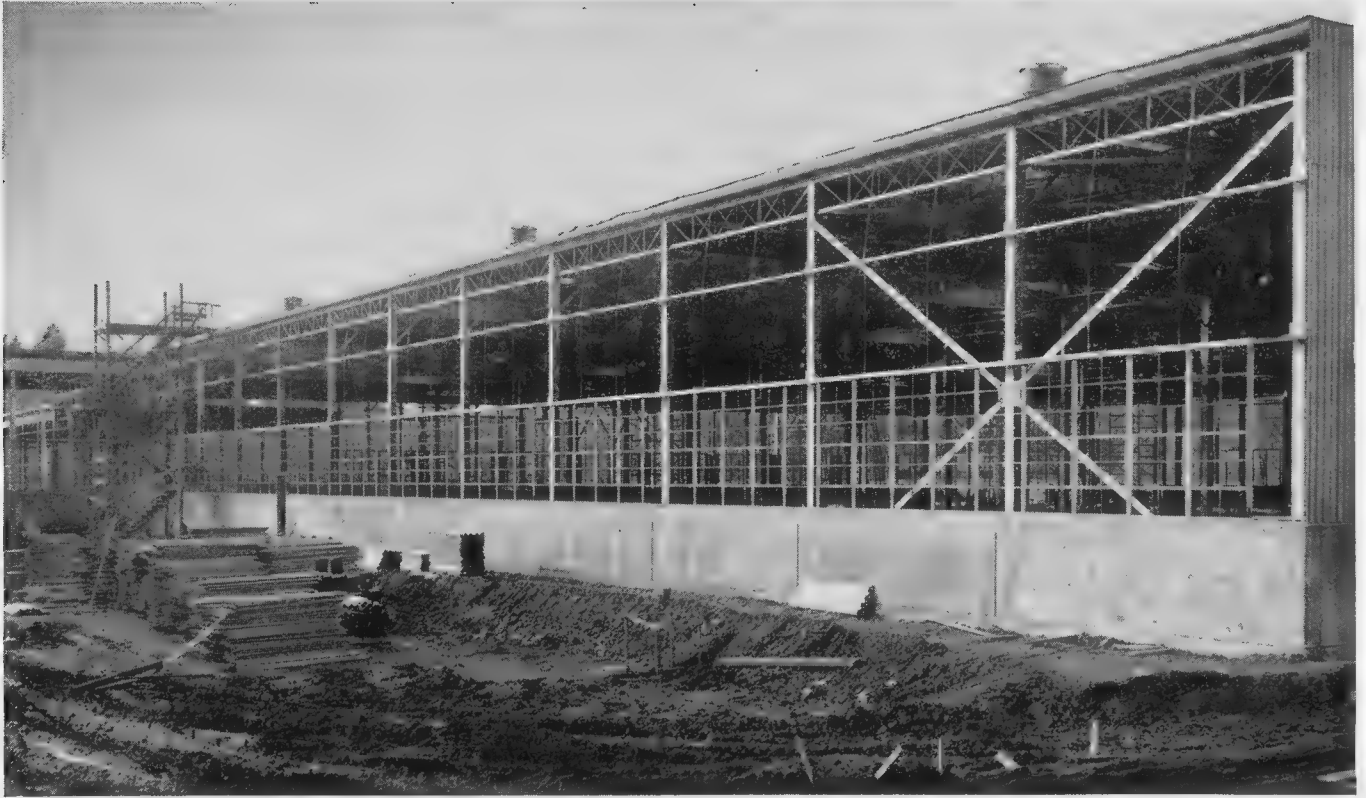
The University of Saskatchewan Hospital under construction — (1949).



The Hospital, showing the completed wing, in which is installed the second Cobalt Bomb to be used in the treatment of cancer.



Architect's drawing of the Nurses Residence now being built at the University of Saskatchewan.



The Continental Can factory at Burnaby, B. C., under construction at the present time.

In addition to the buildings pictured on these pages in various stages of completion, work has just begun on a very large Telephone Exchange in Regina, and extensive defence projects on Vancouver Island are nearing completion. Further defence work has been begun adjacent to the air fields at Moose Jaw and Saskatoon.

THE representative photographs shown in this book give some indication of the extensive building operations of this pioneer construction company during the past fifty-five years, making an enviable record in the development of Western Canada. The founders of the Company and the key men following, as well as their employees, through the years have upheld the tradition of the firm to succeed in building well.



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